

Primal and Dual Example (1)

Primal:

$$\begin{array}{llllll} \min & x_1 & + & 2x_2 & & \\ \text{s.t.} & 2x_1 & + & x_2 & \geq & 7 \\ & -x_1 & + & 3x_2 & \geq & 1 \\ & x_1 & + & 4x_2 & \geq & 5 \\ & & & & & x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$\leftarrow p_1$
 $\leftarrow p_2$
 $\leftarrow p_3$

Dual:

$$\max \quad 7p_1 + p_2 + 5p_3$$

$$2p_1 - p_2 + p_3 \leq 1$$

$$p_1 + 3p_2 + 4p_3 \leq 2$$

$$p_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j$$

Primal and Dual Example (2)

Primal:

$$\begin{array}{llll} \min & -x_1 & + & 4x_2 \\ \text{s.t.} & 3x_1 & + & 2x_2 \geq 9 \\ & x_1 & - & 3x_2 \leq 3 \\ & & & x_1, x_2 \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$\leftarrow p_1$
 $\Leftrightarrow -x_1 + 3x_2 \geq -3 \leftarrow p_2'$

Dual:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & p_1 - 3p_2' \\ \text{s.t.} & 3p_1 - p_2' \leq -1 \\ & 2p_1 + 3p_2' \leq 4 \\ & p_1 \geq 0 \\ & p_2' \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$p_2 := -p_2'$
 \Leftrightarrow

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & p_1 + 3p_2 \\ \text{s.t.} & 3p_1 + p_2 \leq -1 \\ & 2p_1 - 3p_2 \leq 1 \\ & p_1 \geq 0 \\ & p_2 \leq 0 \end{array}$$

Primal and Dual Example (3)

Primal:

$$\begin{array}{rcll}
 \min & -x_1 & + & 4x_2 \\
 \text{s.t.} & 3x_1 & + & 2x_2 \geq 9 \\
 & x_1 & - & 3x_2 = 3 \\
 & & & x_1, x_2 \geq 0
 \end{array}$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1 - 3x_2 \geq 3 \leftarrow p_2' \\ -x_1 + 3x_2 \geq -3 \leftarrow p_2'' \end{array} \right.$

Dual:

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \max & 9p_1 + 3(p_2' - p_2'') & \\
 \text{s.t.} & 3p_1 + (p_2' - p_2'') \leq -1 \\
 & 2p_1 - 3(p_2' - p_2'') \leq 4 \\
 & p_1 \geq 0 \\
 & p_2' \geq 0 \\
 & p_2'' \geq 0
 \end{array}$$

$p_2 := p_2' - p_2'' \iff \max 9p_1 + 3p_2$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 \text{s.t.} & 3p_1 + p_2 \leq -1 \\
 & 2p_1 - 3p_2 \leq 4 \\
 & p_1 \geq 0 \\
 & p_2 \text{ free}
 \end{array}$$

Primal and Dual Linear Program

Consider the general linear program:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & c^T \cdot x \\ \text{s.t.} & a_i^T \cdot x \geq b_i \quad \text{for } i \in M_1 \\ & a_i^T \cdot x \leq b_i \quad \text{for } i \in M_2 \\ & a_i^T \cdot x = b_i \quad \text{for } i \in M_3 \\ & x_j \geq 0 \quad \text{for } j \in N_1 \\ & x_j \leq 0 \quad \text{for } j \in N_2 \\ & x_j \text{ free} \quad \text{for } j \in N_3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} p_i \geq 0 & \text{for } i \in M_1 \\ p_i \leq 0 & \text{for } i \in M_2 \\ p_i \text{ free} & \text{for } i \in M_3 \end{array}$$

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Obtain a lower bound:

$$\begin{array}{ll} p_i \geq 0 & \text{for } i \in M_1 \\ p_i \leq 0 & \text{for } i \in M_2 \\ p_i \text{ free} & \text{for } i \in M_3 \\ A_j^T \cdot p \leq c_j & \text{for } j \in N_1 \\ A_j^T \cdot p \geq c_j & \text{for } j \in N_2 \\ A_j^T \cdot p = c_j & \text{for } j \in N_3 \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & p^T b \\ \text{s.t.} & p_i \geq 0 \quad \text{for } i \in M_1 \\ & p_i \leq 0 \quad \text{for } i \in M_2 \\ & p_i \text{ free} \quad \text{for } i \in M_3 \\ & A_j^T \cdot p \leq c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N_1 \\ & A_j^T \cdot p \geq c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N_2 \\ & A_j^T \cdot p = c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N_3 \end{array}$$

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The linear program on the right hand side is the **dual linear program** of the **primal linear program** on the left hand side.

This is a definition!

Primal and Dual Variables and Constraints

primal LP (minimize)		dual LP (maximize)	
	$\geq b_i$	≥ 0	
constraints	$\leq b_i$	≤ 0	variables
	$= b_i$	free	
	≥ 0	$\leq c_i$	
variables	≤ 0	$\geq c_i$	constraints
	free	$= c_i$	

Examples

primal LP

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & c^T \cdot x \\ \text{s.t.} & A \cdot x \geq b \\ & x \text{ free} \end{array}$$

dual LP

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & p^T \cdot b \\ \text{s.t.} & A^T \cdot p = c \\ & p \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & c^T \cdot x \\ \text{s.t.} & A \cdot x = b \\ & x \geq 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & p^T \cdot b \\ \text{s.t.} & A^T \cdot p \leq c \\ & p \text{ free} \end{array}$$

Basic Properties of the Dual Linear Program

Theorem 4.1.

The dual of the dual LP is the primal LP.

Proof:

Primal in general form:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & c^T \cdot x \\ \text{s.t.} & a_i^T \cdot x \geq b_i \quad \text{for } i \in M_1 \\ & a_i^T \cdot x \leq b_i \quad \text{for } i \in M_2 \\ & a_i^T \cdot x = b_i \quad \text{for } i \in M_3 \\ & x_j \geq 0 \quad \text{for } j \in N_1 \\ & x_j \leq 0 \quad \text{for } j \in N_2 \\ & x_j \text{ free} \quad \text{for } j \in N_3 \end{array}$$

Dual:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & p^T b \\ \text{s.t.} & p_i \geq 0 \quad i \in M_1 \\ & p_i \leq 0 \quad i \in M_2 \\ & p_i \text{ free} \quad i \in M_3 \\ & A_j^T p \leq c_j \quad j \in N_1 \\ & A_j^T p \geq c_j \quad j \in N_2 \\ & A_j^T p = c_j \quad j \in N_3 \end{array}$$

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Basic Properties of the Dual Linear Program

Proof (cont.):

Dual:

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & p^T \cdot b \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & p_i \geq 0 \quad \text{for } i \in M_1 \\ & p_i \leq 0 \quad \text{for } i \in M_2 \\ & p_i \text{ free} \quad \text{for } i \in M_3 \\ & A_j^T \cdot p \leq c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N_1 \\ & A_j^T \cdot p \geq c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N_2 \\ & A_j^T \cdot p = c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N_3 \end{aligned}$$

Dual (in primal form):

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & -p^T b \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \end{aligned}$$

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Basic Properties of the Dual Linear Program

Proof (cont.):

Dual:

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Dual (in primal form):

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & -p^T \cdot b \\ \text{s.t.} & -A_j^T \cdot p \geq -c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N_1 \\ & -A_j^T \cdot p \leq -c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N_2 \\ & -A_j^T \cdot p = -c_j \quad \text{for } j \in N_3 \\ & p_i \geq 0 \quad \text{for } i \in M_1 \\ & p_i \leq 0 \quad \text{for } i \in M_2 \\ & p_i \text{ free} \quad \text{for } i \in M_3 \end{array}$$

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Dual of Dual:

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & -c^T x \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x_j \geq 0 \quad j \in N_1 \\ & x_j \leq 0 \quad j \in N_2 \\ & x_j \text{ free} \quad j \in N_3 \\ & -a_i^T x \leq -b_i \quad i \in M_1 \\ & -a_i^T x \geq -b_i \quad i \in M_2 \\ & -a_i^T x = -b_i \quad i \in M_3 \end{aligned}$$

Equivalence of the Dual LP

Theorem 4.2.

Let Π_1 and Π_2 be two LPs where Π_2 has been obtained from Π_1 by (several) transformations of the following type:

- i replace a free variable by the difference of two non-negative variables;
- ii introduce a slack variable in order to replace an inequality constraint by an equation;
- iii if some row of a feasible equality system is a linear combination of the other rows, eliminate this row.

Then the dual of Π_1 is equivalent to the dual of Π_2 .

Weak Duality Theorem

Theorem 4.3.

If x is a feasible solution to the primal LP (minimization problem) and p a feasible solution to the dual LP (maximization problem), then

$$c^T \cdot x \geq p^T \cdot b .$$

Weak Duality Theorem

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$$c^T \cdot x \geq p^T \cdot b .$$

Corollary 4.4.

Consider a primal-dual pair of linear programs as above.

- a** If the primal LP is unbounded (i. e., optimal cost = $-\infty$), then the dual LP is infeasible.
- b** If the dual LP is unbounded (i. e., optimal cost = ∞), then the primal LP is infeasible.
- c** If x and p are feasible solutions to the primal and dual LP, resp., and if $c^T \cdot x = p^T \cdot b$, then x and p are optimal solutions.

Proof of Thm 4.3:

By Thm 4.2 we may assume that primal (P) and dual (D) are of the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(P)} \quad \min c^T x &= \sum_{j=1}^n c_j x_j \\ \text{s.t. } Ax &\geq b \\ x &\geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j &\geq b_i, \forall i \\ x_i &\geq 0, \forall i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(D)} \quad \max p^T b &= \sum_{i=1}^m b_i p_i \\ \text{s.t. } A^T p &\leq c \\ p &\geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} p_i &\leq c_j, \forall j \\ p_i &\geq 0, \forall i \end{aligned}$$